

AGENDA ITEM VI A 2

PROGRESS REPORT ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAM

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

M.S. IN COMMUNITY/TECHNICAL COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At its meeting of August 28, 2003, the Board of Regents took the following action:

Conditional approval is granted for the proposed M.S. program in Community/Technical College Mathematics (CIP Code 27.0199) at Nicholls State University. The implementation date of the program shall be decided after receipt of a progress report to be due March 1, 2004, documenting efforts of the University to address outstanding concerns. Most critically, one additional new Ph.D. in Mathematics faculty must be hired prior to program implementation. Additional progress reports may be required thereafter.

Further, the M.S. program in Applied Mathematics (CIP Code 27.0301) at Nicholls State University is hereby terminated, effective Fall 2004.

STAFF ANALYSIS

Nicholls State University (NSU) has provided priority status and funding for hiring an additional Ph.D.-credentialed faculty in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. Accordingly, Dr. Don Bardwell, Department chairman, participated in the Employment Center at the January joint meeting of the American Mathematical Society and Mathematical Association of America. The Department is currently processing applications for this position.

STAFF SUMMARY

The University is still actively seeking an additional Ph.D. in Mathematics-qualified faculty. The program should not be implemented until this person's employment has been secured. A progress report addressing other concerns listed in the original staff summary should also be required.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee receive the AY 2003-2004 Progress Report from Nicholls State University Relative to Implementation of the M.S. program in Community and Technical College Mathematics. When the University has submitted documentation that an additional Ph. D. credentialed faculty member has been hired in Mathematics, the Board of Regents shall immediately consider an implementation date for this program. Further, a second progress report addressing other previously cited staff concerns shall be due by April 1, 2005.